P24588.A09

ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Shinsuke OKADA et al. Applicants

Group Art Unit: 3739

Appl. No.

: 10/771,403

Examiner: M. J. Kasztejna

Filed

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For

: OBJECTIVE LENS UNIT FOR ENDOSCOPE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on May 5, 2004, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Notification of Reasons for Refusal dated October 6, 2008 with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No.2003-031818, in which the following documents were cited:

- JP 9-222568 A, along with an English language Abstract thereof; (1)
- (2) JP 6-160684 A, along with an English language Abstract thereof; and
- (3) JP 2002-267915 A, along with an English language Abstract thereof.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Notification of Reasons for Refusal.

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Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached hereto, and are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese Notification of Reasons for Refusal, including an English language translation thereof, is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of a Final Rejection, Applicants have included herewith a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p). Applicants furthermore certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Shinsuke OKADA et al.

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November 15, 2008 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191